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\$5URGENT ' ' ' ' TURNER

WASHINGTON, FEB 7, REUTER - PRESIDENT CARTER WILL NOMINATE ADMIRAL STANSFIELD TURNER, COMMANDER OF NATO FORCES IN SOUTHERN EUROPE, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

ADMIRAL TURNER, 54, GRADUATED FIRST IN THE CLASS AT THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY AT ANNAPOLIS IN 1946, THE SAME GRADUATING CLASS AS THE PRESIDENT.

MR. CARTER'S ORIGINAL CHOICE FOR THE JOB, FORMER TOP KENNEDY AIDE THEODORE SORESENSEN, ASKED FOR HIS NOMINATION TO BE WITHDRAWN IN THE FACE OF SENATE OPPOSITION. \$
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\$TURNER 2 WASHINGTON (R-660....OF SENATE OPPOSITION.) \$

ADMIRAL TURNER HAS BEEN COMMANDER OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPE NATO FORCES, BASED IN NAPLES, SINCE AUGUST 1974.

PREVIOUSLY, HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE AT NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND, AND ALSO SERVED AS HEAD OF THE PENTAGON'S SYSTEMS ANALYSIS DIVISION.

PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY JODY POWELL SAID MR. CARTER FELT ADMIRAL TURNER WAS EMINENTLY QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION, WITH A BROAD ACADEMIC AND MILITARY BACKGROUND.

MR. POWELL SAID PRESIDENT CARTER DID NOT KNOW ADMIRAL TURNER AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY AND COULD NOT REMEMBER MEETING HIM.

"HE WAS SO FAR AHEAD OF US, HE WEREN'T EVEN JEALOUS OF HIM," HE QUOTED THE PRESIDENT AS SAYING. MR. CARTER WAS PLACED 59TH IN THE CLASS IN WHICH ADMIRAL TURNER GRADUATED. \$

These comments represent the initial and tentative reaction of the CIA Operations Center and of the appropriate analytic component in the Agency.

Mr. Sorensen; the President's first choice for the CIA job; was the only one of Mr. Carter's nominations for cabinet or cabinet-level positions not to be confirmed by the Senate.

He asked for withdrawal of his nomination because of opposition centered on his lack of experience in security matters and allegations he used classified data obtained while working at the White House for a book on the Kennedy years.

Mr. Powell said the President and some of his White House aides discussed the nomination of Admiral Turner with members of Congress over the past two or three days and that it would be submitted to the Senate within the next day or so.

He said one of the things that had been a factor in Mr. Carter's decision was that Admiral Turner conducted a major overhaul of the curriculum at the Naval War College during his two-year tenure as its president.

Admiral Turner has a Master's degree in foreign affairs from Britain's Oxford University; which he attended as a Rhodes scholar one year after graduating from the Naval Academy.

He has held a variety of assignments at sea; including command of a mine sweeper; a destroyer and a guided missile frigate. He is married; and has two children.

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ASBY JAMES GERSTENZANG

ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Carter today chose Ron. Stansfield Turner; a classmate from the Naval Academy; to direct the Central Intelligence Agency.

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